THE PLAYS OF THE WEEK

WHAT THEATRES AROUND THE TOWN HAVE TO OFFER.

Mr. Daly promises for next Thursday evening his annual Shakespearian revival. This is always one of the most interesting occasions of the theatrical season, and in this case it will be even more so than usual, because of the infrequency of performances of the play which is to be presented, "Two Gentlemen of Verona." For the first half of the week "The Orient Express" and "A Tragedy Rehearsed" will be kept on the stage.

This will be the last week of H. Beerbohm Tree's engagement at Abbey's Theatre. The programme arranged for the week will be as follows: For Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, "The Merry Wives of Windsor" will be given, with Mr. Tree as Falstaff; at the Wednesday matinee the final performance of "Captain Swift" will be presented; on Thursday and Friday nights and at the matinee on Saturday the bill will be "Hamlet," and for the last night the programme will be made up of acts from the dramas in which Mr. Tree has already been seen.

"Rob Roy" holds its calm course at the Herald Square Theatre, and there need be no hesitation in setting it down as one of the few successes of the present unsatisfactory season. It will be continued through next month and into April.

"Mme. Sans Gene" is sufficiently popular at the Broadway Theatre to warrant Messrs. French and Pitou in continuing it until Saturday evening, April 6. The second month is showing large audiences, and Miss Kathryn Kidder continues to win new admirers as Mme. Sans Gene.

The great liar in "Too Much Johnson" will celebrate the birthday of the truthful George Washington at the Standard Theatre on Friday by lying at a special matinee. The souvenir of the 100th performance, which will occur on February 25, has been designed by Mr. Gillette, and is said to be unique and useful.

"The Case of Rebellious Susan" at the Lyceum Theatre has passed its fiftieth night. This comedy will form the stock company's chief play on its annual tour next summer. Its successor for the Lyceum is not yet announced.

"The Major" seems to be as gratifying to the frequenters of Harrigan's Theatre as anything that Mr. Harrigan has placed on his stage in a long time. A revival of such an old play is always a matter of some risk, but "The Major" appears to have lost none of its flavor. Mrs. Yeamans, John Wild and Mr. Harrigan all have good parts, and "Dave" Braham's melodies are as stirring as ever.

This week Mr. Conried will test the versatility of his company at the Irving Place Theatre, as the repertory consists of drama, tragedy, comedy and farce-comedy. The new play, which will be produced on Thursday evening for the first time in America is entitled "Ungeratene Kinder," and is the latest production of Paul Lindau. This play was first produced in Berlin, at the Royal Court Theatre. "Ungeratene Kinder" will be repeated on Friday night, Saturday afternoon and Saturday night. The repertory for the other days of the week is as follows: Monday and Wednesday, "Die Ehre"; Tuesday, "Jugend"; Friday (Washington's Birthday), at a special matinee, Schiller's tragedy, "Maria Stuart," at popular prices.

The attractions at the Harlem Opera House for the coming week will be "Francillon," "Charlotte Corday" and "Therese," three plays from the repertory of Mrs. Cora Urquhart Potter and Kyrle Bellew. On Monday and Tuesday evenings and Friday (Washington's Birthday) afternoon they will present "Francillon"; on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings and Saturday afternoon they will appear in "Charlotte Corday," and on Saturday evening they will give the only performance of "Therese." This will be their only engagement in New-York this season.

Miss Fanny Davenport and her company will end the engagement in "Gismonda" at the Fifth Avenue Theatre this week. The full cast of Miss Martha Morton's new play, "His Wife's Father," which William H. Crane is to produce at the Fifth Avenue on February 25, is as follows: Buchanan Billings, the meddlesome father-in-law, William H. Crane; Frank Hamilton, his son-in-law, Orrin Johnson; Maynard Langdon, his brother-in-law, George F. De Vere; Ferdinand Langdon, his nephew, Joseph Wheelock, jr.; Matthew, his faithful servant, Percy Brook; Nell Billings, his only child, Miss Anne O'Neill; Aunt Eliza, his aunt-in-law, Miss Kate Denin Wilson; Mrs. Canary, in the fruit business, Miss Ffolliott Paget; Kitty Canary, her daughter, Miss Mary Sanders; Adelaide Langdon, Miss Maud Carlisle; Celia Langdon, Miss Louise Brooke; Mr. Rawlin, D. J. Fingleton; Mr. Vanderpool, B. Douglass Ryer; the Rev. Dr. Andrews, Frank Calburt; maid, Miss Ida Burrows.

To-morrow night "The Masqueraders" will have its 100th performance at the Empire Theatre. Mr. Frohman is now giving his attention to laying the work of his stock company for next year. J. H. Stoddard has been added to the organization, and other additions which will follow will increase the strength of this band of players. Matinees of "The Masqueraders" will be given on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday this week.

"The Fatal Card" to-morrow night begins the last three weeks of its run at Palmer's Theatre. When it leaves Palmer's the company will go to Chicago and thence to San Francisco. Although the time originally set apart for the play by Mr. Palmer was only six weeks, it will have had ten before its engagement at his house ends. A special matinee is announced for Washington's Birthday.

"In Old Kentucky" will be the attraction at the Columbus Theatre for the coming week. The original company will appear and the production will be the same as that given at the Academy of Music last season. The company includes Miss Laura Burt, Forrest Robinson, Thomas H. Burns, George W. Deyo, Charles K. French, William McVay, Miss Ethel Greybrooke, Miss Grace Sherwood and others. On Washington's Birthday a special matinee will be given.

"Little Christopher" at the Garden has taken a new hold of public favor since the engagement of Miss Bessie Bonehill for the title part. Her personality and sense of humor are well suited to the part. The 200th performance is announced for Monday, March 25. There will be a special matinee on Friday.

There is nothing new to say about "The Old Homestead" any more than there was anything new to say about it six years ago. Denman Thompson and his company are still playing it at the Star Theatre.

The programme at Koster & Bial's to-morrow evening will be made more interesting by the introduction of the following new features: Miss Cissie Loftus in new imitations of prominent American stage favorites; the reappearance in America of the Frantz family, acrobats; Stainville in new impersonations, the brothers Rossow, liliputian athletes, for the first time in a new boxing act, with soft gloves; the first presentation of a new living picture entitled "Gloria in Excelsis," which will have a solo and invisible chorus effect, and the reappearance of Mlle. Alcide Capitaine on the flying trapeze. The rest of the bill will include Hurley and Wilton, triple horizontal-bar performers; Mlle. Eugenie Petrescu, contortionist; the four Diezes, French singers and dancers, and Paul Cinquevalli, the juggler. On Friday a matinee will be given.

There will be a 150th performance of "A Milk White Flag" at Hoyt's on Thursday evening. There will be a souvenir, and a handsome one, it is said. "The Foundling," which is to be presented at Hoyt's Theatre on February 25, is reported to be successful in Chicago. Miss Annie Russell will be seen in a one-act piece, "Lethe," which will precede the comedy.

"The District Attorney" enters to-morrow on the last week of its career at the American Theatre, where it is still attracting large and well-pleased audiences. After "The District Attorney" leaves the American it will make a tour of the principal cities. Messrs. Lackaye, Mordaunt and Williams, the Misses Irish, Shannon and Ritchie, and the other members of the cast are doing some good acting in Klein and Fiske's play.

Here are Tony Pastor's promises for this week: Nat. Haines and Joe Pettingill, in "The Pool Room"; Miss Georgie Parker, who will make her first appearance this season, and will introduce some new songs and dances; Miss Belle Black, who will make her first appearance at this theatre; McAvoy and May, the Patterson Brothers, trapeze performers; George E. Austin, Frank Fisher and Nettie Crowell, in their acrobatic sketch; Martinnetti's Brothers, Gus. Meehan and Annie Raymond, vocalists, introducing an original sketch, with dialogue, banjo solos, etc., and Tony Pastor in new songs and parodies. There will be matinees on Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

A slight change was made last week in the scenic part of "Rory of the Hill," which James C. Roach is playing at the Academy of Music. This was the addition of the Mayrhoffer storm effects in the eviction scene. The storm comes on immediately after the battering down of the cottage.

The coming week at the Eden Musée will be marked by the return of "Professor" Powell, the magician, and Majilton. They have just returned from a tour through Europe, and when the management of the Musée heard that they had one open week they were promptly engaged. Their engagement is, therefore, for only one week. "Professor" Powell has new illusions which are said to be startling and mystifying. Frank Majilton has many friends in this city. They will both give performances every evening and at matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. They will also appear at a special matinee on Friday, Washington's Birthday. The Gypsy Orchestra of twelve pieces will give concerts afternoon and evening, and their programme for the week is attractive. It includes, besides the classical and popular melodies, several selections of gypsy music, which are especially pleasing. Among the waxworks, President Faure, of France, has taken his place with the rulers of the world, and that group is now complete. The figure has been made from drawings and photographs secured in Paris after his election. The suit worn was made by the new President's tailor.

W. A. Brady's production of "Humanity," with its twenty thoroughbred horses, its forty-two hounds, its bomb explosion and duel on horseback, is filling the Fourteenth Street Theatre at every performance. It is presented with elaborate scenery and a cast including Joseph R. Grismer, Miss Phoebe Davies, Theodore Hamilton, Dore Davidson and others. "The Village Postmaster," a New-England comedy drama by Alice E. Ives and Jerome H. Eddy, is to have an elaborate production at the Fourteenth Street Theatre on November 4.

The programme at the Atlantic Garden, No. 50 Bowery, this week is an interesting one. It includes Takizawa's imperial Japanese troupe in their acts of balancing and contortion; Barry and Bannan, comedians; Pearl Raymond, dancer; Henry Axlen, singer, and Cecil Herson, soubrette. In the intermissions there will be music by the Elite Lady Orchestra and the World's Fair prize orchestrion. Special artists are also engaged for the Sunday afternoon and evening concerts at this house.

Foreign novelties follow in rapid succession at Proctor's, where Louis Balazy and Mlle. Philo-Durand, French transformation duettists, will make their American debut to-morrow. They have gained repute in Paris and come direct from a long engagement at the London Empire. Now that the living pictures have been withdrawn there will be no break in the continuous vaudeville. Susanna Shaffer, the juggler and equilibrist, of the Shaffer family, and the three Romas, "human horizontal bars," will remain, but all the other features are new, including the brothers Crescendo, electric musical clowns; Fortescue and German, in the sketch "My New Teacher"; Millar, cornet soloist; the Orien Trio, in "A Hot Chase"; Maurice Drew and Lizzie May Ulmer, in "Jack Roses"; the Yokohama troupe of Japanese jugglers and gymnasts, the Highleys, Higgins and Leslie, grotesque aerial comedians; Mecca, the boy soprano; Hughes and De Forrest, Scanlon and Stevens, Zoyarra, Morton and Coleman, Maggie Bennett, in songs and dances; the Fields, John J. Hill, skater, from Moore and Burgess's Minstrels, London; and Harry Brooks. On Washington's Birthday the performance will begin one hour earlier than usual, for the accommodation of out-of-town people. To-day's concert will be continuous from 2 to 10:30 p. m.

The last of the series of Sunday night concerts will be given at the Metropolitan Opera House this evening. The attractions offered are Mme. Emma Eames, Mlle. Mira Heller, Signor Campanari and M. Plancon, together with the Metropolitan Opera House Orchestra, under the direction of Signor Bevignani.

The programme of good things to be presented at the Postal Employes' Mutual Aid Association's benefit, to be given at the Broadway Theatre next Thursday afternoon, offers many features that will appeal to the public, and particularly to those who appreciate a well-balanced bill. Among the features of the entertainment are the Empire Theatre Company, including Robert Edeson, W. H. Thompson, Miss Agnes Miller, Miss May Robson, and Miss Genevieve Reynolds, in "Marsa Van," which made a hit when played at the Actors' Fund benefit last month; the Whitney Opera Company, in an act of "Rob Roy"; T. H. French's company, with Wilton Lackaye, Frank Mordaunt, Odell Williams, Charles Abbe, Miss Annie Irish, and Miss Effie Shannon, in an act of "The District Attorney"; Louis Aldrich, Miss Lillian Thurgate, Victor Herbert, Chauncey Olcott, Signor Campanari and the New-York Letter-Carriers' brass band, consisting of sixty pieces. Messrs. French and Frohman deserve credit for the labors they have performed and all that is needed is the co-operation of the public to make the benefit a success.

By invitation of the departments of English Literature of Yale and Harvard, Franklin H. Sargent will present Ben Jonson's "Epicoene, or The Silent Woman," at New-Haven, and at Sander's Theatre, Cambridge, this spring, before the faculty and students of each university. The cast will comprise the members of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, who presented the comedy at the Berkeley Lyceum recently. The Elizabethan stage will be reproduced, with all the appointments and costumes of the period.

Mme. Rejane and the French company which will support her in this country, left Havre yesterday on the Champagne, and are expected here a week from to-day. Mme. Rejane will begin her American tour at Abbey's Theatre on the evening of Tuesday, February 26, in Victorien Sardou and Emile Moreau's comedy, "Madame Sans-Gene," which will be presented at Abbey's Theatre as it was at the Vaudeville in Paris, and the Gaiety, in London. The following is a list of the members of the company: Mmes. Aimee Martial, Duluc-Maury, Aimee Samuel, Dauville, Marketti, Darcy, Marceil, Ramle, Claudia, Netza and Numes, and MM. Duquesne, Coste, Gilles, Maury, Numes, Rambert, Rhode, Darmand, Kemm, Chotard, Donnet, Gaillard, Duvelleroy, Corpailles, Montcharmont, Leroy, Prevost, Andrelys, Germain, Charles, Lebequinki and Andre.

To-morrow at the California Theatre, in San Francisco, Frederick Warde and Louis James will present for the first time a new romantic play by William Greer Harrison, of San Francisco, entitled "Runnymede, or Robin Hood and his Merrie Men," which deals with Magna Charter, and the story of Robin Hood.

At Huber's Fourteenth Street Museum to-morrow the fat lady sprinters will enter upon the last week of their engagement. During their four weeks' stay they have become prime favorites with the numerous patrons of the house, and it is with great reluctance that Manager Huber parts with them at the end of this week. Kenyon, the equilibrist, will begin a week's engagement to-morrow. The Smith twin sisters will remain. Although at the advanced age of eighty-eight, they are still bright and sprightly and might easily pass for a quarter of a century younger. E. W. Wood's representation of a Chinese opium "joint" will be another of the leading attractions in the curio hall. Walters, "the blue man," continues to attract attention. Woodrull and Palmer, the glass-blowers, and Rose, "the bearded lady," will help to make up one of the finest bills of the season in the curio hall of the establishment. The programme in the theatre includes Faust and Thorne, Charles H. Duncan, Gaylor and Graff, May Walsh, Williams and Tyler, Moglio's trained monkeys, a troupe of wonderfully trained and highly amusing simians, and the Japanese living pictures, also in their last week.

A concert will be given at the Carnegie Music Hall next Sunday evening by the Symphony Orchestra, Walter Damrosch, conductor, assisted by Ysaye, the violinist; Fraulein Elsa Kutscherra, soprano, and Nicolaus Rothmuhl, first tenor, Royal Opera, Berlin.

No Thursday matinee will be given at the Lyceum Theatre this week, but on Friday an extra performance will be given in honor of Washington's Birthday. The following week the Thursday matinees will be resumed.

WORKING HARD ON THE STREETS.

PLANS OF COLONEL WARING FOR THE DISPOSAL OF ASHES AND GARBAGE—THE COMMISSIONER GIVES A RAP AT "LABOR."

Colonel Waring spent several hours in his office yesterday, directing the affairs of the Street Cleaning Department, and he said he was recovering rapidly from the severe cold from which he had been suffering. He gave orders for a continuation of the work of removing snow from the business streets downtown during last night and to-day, and said he expected to have most of the streets in which there is heavy traffic clean by to-morrow. The Dock Commissioners were asked to have the docks at East River and Seventeenth-st. and North River and Nineteenth-st. dredged out to-day, in order to allow the Barney dumping scows to get to the dumps. Deputy-Commissioner Moore said that he expected to have all of the refuse which had been dumped in the streets near the rivers removed by Tuesday.

When there is warmer weather, and the work of the Street Cleaning Department can go on without interruption by snow, the Board of Health and Colonel Waring will co-operate in compelling the separation of ashes and garbage at every house in the city. The plan will be to compel the owners of houses to remove at their own expense all ashes and garbage which are mixed in the same receptacles. That plan, it is believed, will soon compel the systematic separation of ashes and garbage, and it will then be easy to get rid of the clean ashes for filling and to sell the garbage to the manufacturers of fertilizers. In that way the cost of disposing of ashes and garbage, and also the cost of cleaning the streets, will be greatly lessened.

Colonel Waring yesterday gave out the following statement regarding the delay in paying the men who help to remove the snow from the streets:

I am appealed to by many kind-hearted persons, whose sympathies have very naturally been aroused in behalf of the poor snow-shovellers who have had to wait so long for the few dollars coming to them for their chance work. I am implored to see that they are paid more promptly. This cannot be done. The formalities necessary to be gone through with take time. Even the regular force of the department has to wait six days for its payrolls to be made out, properly audited at the Controller's office and paid by the City Paymaster. In the case of the irregular force of snow-shovellers, the average time of delay is eight days, and this probably cannot be made less.

Many of these men earn only one day's pay—$2—and the average of the last four days of January was only $3 26. For this pittance the 5,028 men who had earned it had to stand around in the cold and wet, waiting day after day to get their money. It was not possible for either the Department of Street Cleaning or the Department of Finance to prevent this hard necessity.

The fault lies entirely at the door of "labor," of the only aristocracy in our social organization, of an ignorant, cruel and heartless conglomeration of designing and well-paid blatherskites and their foolish dupes, who have been petted by sentimentalists and coddled by politicians until they assume the right to grind the faces of the poor, and who make the ordinary workingman a slave.

But for "labor," and for the politician's cowardice, in the face of an organized vote, these poor snow-shovellers could have worked for contractors who would have done the city much better service than we have been able to render, and for much less money. They would have received $1 50 a day. Under the present plan, counting the time spent in coming to get their money, they have not received more than 50 cents per day, and this is directly owing to the part that "labor" has played in legislation, restricting the rights of workingmen.

WORK OF THE METHODIST PUBLISHERS.

REPORTS PRESENTED AT THE FINAL SESSIONS OF THE BOOK COMMITTEE—A FAVORABLE SHOWING ON EVERY HAND.

The Book Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church concluded its work on Friday afternoon, at the Methodist Book Concern, in this city. There has been no previous meeting of this committee so fruitful of results. Hard times in financial circles have prevailed; distress has existed everywhere, but the contributions to the various publishing interests of the Church have been persistently and really enthusiastically sustained. The Methodist Church is, according to the views expressed by those dominant within it, an aggressive quantity in religious reform. The leaders of the Church believe that they have the respect of not only communities, but Governments, and they try to commend their work to the approval of citizens of all creeds. The work of the committee in the last week has dealt largely with the publication features associated with the Methodist Church work.

The report of the Committee on Reports of Agents of Publication Houses set forth that the valuation of real estate is $1,613,083 81, being an increase during the year of $102,583 81. Of this sum, $32,000 was expended on the building at Cincinnati and $69,593 81 on the property at Pittsburg; of this latter sum, $48,551 88 remains as an indebtedness. Regarding property in Chicago, the recommendation was made that the Western agents and the Local Committee at Cincinnati should consider the propriety of erecting a building from a fund drawn from the proceeds of the sale of property in Chicago at the largely increased valuation. The committee also reported that the depositories at Boston, Pittsburg, Chicago and St. Louis have returned, during the year, a fair remuneration for the capital invested. The depositories at San Francisco and Detroit have realized only a small margin beyond expenses. The subscription department reported a large and growing business, with the assurance that the prospect of increased sales for the coming year was most encouraging. The reports of the agents show that sales have aggregated during the year the sum of $1,857,322 53, and that a profit has been realized of $198,257 74.

The Rev. Franz L. Nagler was elected Editor of "Haus and Herd" and German Sunday-school books and tracts, as successor to the Rev. Dr. Henry Liebhart, who was recently killed in a railway accident. The Rev. Dr. J. W. Shank was approved as the Editor of "The Omaha Christian Advocate."

On account of the indisposition of the committee to give out much information with reference to the convocation, the names of those participating have not been printed. The committee was elected by the last General Conference of the Church, for the quadrennial term. These are the names of those who qualified as members of the meeting: The Rev. Drs. A. F. Chase, A. J. Palmer, L. C. Queal, E. J. Gray, W. F. Whitlock, J. E. Wilson, M. A. Head, J. R. Creighton, N. A. Chamberlain, W. R. R. Duncan, and from the laymen, Clement Studebaker, T. B. Sweet, H. A. Salzer, Justus Greeley, William Hoyt, E. B. Tuttle, E. L. Fancher, R. T. Miller, Richard Dymond and J. N. Gamble.

WOMEN FOOTBALL PLAYERS.

A CLUB OF THEM ORGANIZED IN ENGLAND.

From The Sketch.

We live in an age of progress, and the new woman is the latest evidence of the advancement. Anybody who had predicted the appearance of ladies "between the lines" would have been looked at more in sorrow than in anger. Yet are we already in possession of a group of fair performers, styled "The British Ladies' Football Club," with Lady Florence Dixie as the president.

Miss Nettie J. Honeyball is the secretary and captain of what may be fairly described as the sporting sensation of the hour; and, if energy and enthusiasm can command success, then surely is the association already pressured of victory. As I saw her in her pretty little study in Crouch End, a thoughtful-looking young lady, with a strong personality, I at once dispelled the suspicion of burlesque that came into my mind.

"You are quite right," said Miss Honeyball, putting aside an ominous batch of correspondence to give me some details; "there is nothing of the farcical nature about the British Ladies' Football Club. I founded the association late last year, with the fixed resolve of proving to the world that women are not the 'ornamental and useless' creatures men have pictured. I must confess my convictions on all matters where the sexes are so widely divided are all on the side of emancipation, and I look forward to the time when ladies may sit in Parliament and have a voice in the direction of affairs, especially those which concern them most."

"Then, I may take it, you also anticipate a time when big league football clubs will be composed of players both male and female?"

"Such a consummation is, of course, very far distant, but it is possible. You must remember we do not profess to the strength of men." Miss Honeyball did not mention "brute force," like the lady in "Rebellious Susan"; "but we claim the science, and, in my opinion, football is just the exercise to promote health and grace among women.

"But have all your members the moral courage to face public attendances on the field?"

"Why not? There is nothing at all questionable in our costume. When Lady Florence Dixie consented to become president she specially stipulated that if the club were to attain its end the girls should enter into the spirit of the game with heart and soul. 'I will have nothing to do with balloon sleeves and trained skirts, and anything like that,' she said; 'don't court ridicule by ridiculing yourselves.' Accordingly, we all have our costumes of divided skirts—a sort of blue serge knickerbocker—

MISS NETTIE HONEYBALL,
Captain of British Ladies' Football Club.

and the teams will be distinguished by wearing, respectively, cardinal and pale-blue blouses. You will detect no nervousness in the girls when they make their first public appearance. We practise twice a week."

"I suppose you had a good deal of trouble in obtaining members?"

"Not at all. I have players from all parts of London, and a few even have to travel from the farther suburbs. They number close upon thirty, and three or four are married, the ages varying from fifteen to twenty-six. Of course, when we first began complaints were made of stiffness and soreness, but that soon wore off, and you would be surprised to see the energy thrown into the game. Our original idea was to play our first match on January 12, but a good many difficulties stood in the way, so we decided to postpone it till the end of this month, on the Crouch End Ground, and we will call it Northern v. South. Then, if we attain any sort of success, we hope to visit a few of the provinces and endeavor to foster the game among the ladies there."

"You may expect an amount of adverse criticism."

"I know it. Already the comic papers have burlesqued the notion right and left. All the members are of the middle class, else how could they spare the time and expense to indulge in practice?"

"How did you go about getting the team together?"

"Well, in the first instance I advertised, and, as you can guess, I received a few bogus applications from young men. However, I called all the ladies to a meeting, and we soon proceeded to business. None of them, of course, had previously played, but, like myself, had gained all their experience and love of football from frequent onlooking. Then came the question of ground. The committee of the Oval refused to allow us the use of that ground, and eventually we made arrangements with Mr. C. W. de Lyons Pike to practise and play on the Nightingale Lane inclosure. We have been out so far very regularly, no matter what the weather, and each time the improvement in style is more marked. Mr. J. W. Julian, the well-known half-back, is acting as coach, and rendering valuable assistance."

"Then I may take it there will be no withdrawal—that the club is come to stay and astonish creation?"

"You need have no fear of the collapse of the association," said Miss Honeyball, confidently. "I told the girls plainly at the outset—they were all strangers to me, except my sister—that if they ever wished to give up to tell me at once, and I would get others to take their places; but, so far from that, the attendance at practice is astonishingly good. We had a little test-game one day, and one side won by 8 goals to 6; but, of course, all interest is being centred on the day we admit the public, for, as you may guess, our practice is strictly private. Lady Dixie, who has evinced great interest, will doubtless be present, and has offered to present the winning eleven with copies of her 'Gloriana,' a work which will appeal to us all. In addition, a weekly paper has offered timepieces to the successful ones also, so a hotly contested sixty minutes can be promised."

Since interviewing Miss Honeyball, I have had the pleasure of witnessing the members of the B. L. F. C. at practice, and must confess to a feeling of surprise at the amount of ability already attained. Although the occasion of my visit was not favorable, meteorologically, the ladies went about their various duties pluckily and energetically, skill and shooting power making up for any lack of speed and force.

JAUNT OF MINING ENGINEERS.

THEY WILL HOLD A SERIES OF SESSIONS THROUGHOUT FLORIDA—THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The meetings of engineering and scientific societies are popularly supposed to be dry and uninteresting. If this be the general rule, the American Institute of Mining Engineers furnishes the exception. This society has a membership numbering 2,000 or 3,000 mining engineers, metallurgists and men of kindred interests. Although the membership is confined to men, the institute is conducted somewhat on the co-educational plan. That is, the meetings are open to the wives and sisters of the members, and are so arranged as to offer them many attractions. This winter the annual and sixty-eighth meeting will be opened in New-York at noon on Tuesday, and then adjourned to Florida. On March 27 the adjourned session will be resumed in the land of oranges, where the members and their sisters, cousins and aunts will have been transported by special trains. The sessions will be further adjourned from time to time to Ocala, Tampa Bay, St. Augustine, the phosphate regions, Lake Worth and other places of interest in the itinerary. The principal session will be at Tampa Bay. The Florida railroads have offered free transportation to the members of the institute, but the impossibility of supplying suitable cars for the large special trains necessary has compelled the Committee of Arrangements to charter Pullman cars for the entire trip. About 400 people have already expressed their intention of going.

Special Pullman cars will leave New-York on March 25 over the Pennsylvania road. The cars will become a part of a special train of Pullman cars which will leave Washington that evening and run by way of Charlotte, Columbia and Savannah to Ocala. The last-named place will be reached on March 27.

After the stay at Ocala, with excursions to phosphate mines, the train will reach Tampa Bay on Friday evening, March 29, remaining over Saturday and Sunday. It will start Monday afternoon, April 1, to arrive at St. Augustine (after visiting points on the way) on Wednesday morning, April 3, and leave that place the next morning for Lake Worth, where Thursday night and Friday will be spent. The train will return Friday night to St. Augustine, arriving Saturday morning, and proceed at once by way of Savannah and Charlotte to Washington, where it will arrive on Sunday morning, April 7. For those who desire to go at once to New-York and intermediate points, the special Pullman cars will be available. Those who prefer to stay over Sunday in Washington will probably have to secure Pullman accommodations extra.

The estimated expense is a little over $100 a person, including hotel and restaurant charges. This is about as cheap a two weeks' trip to Florida as any association ever secured. Seven nights out of the two weeks will be spent in the sleeping cars. The usual papers on engineering subjects will be read at the sessions held at the different halting places, but the major part of the time will be taken up with sightseeing.

INCIDENTS IN BALTIMORE SOCIETY.

Baltimore, Feb. 16 (Special).—The intense cold apparently has not affected the jewellers in the social world. Although several sleighrides and oyster roasts, which were to have taken place at the Kennels, had to be postponed, nothing else has been put off for warmer days. The week opened with the usual Monday gayeties. The Colonial Tea came off in the afternoon, presided over by Mrs. Winfield Taylor and Mrs. William Reed. Mrs. Elgeworth Bird gave a small card party that afternoon. Among those present were Mrs. George Small, Mrs. John S. Tyson, Mrs. Wesley Tucker and Mrs. Henry Greenway. Before the cotillion there were several dinners. Charles B. Spence gave a dinner at the Stafford in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John McHenry, and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Riggs. Mrs. W. S. G. Williams also entertained her friends at dinner on Monday evening. Harry Warfield led the cotillion, which was well attended. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. David Stewart, Dr. and Mrs. Clapham Pennington, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Winans, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Whistler, Miss Mildred Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Patterson, Maurice Gregg, Frank Harvey and many others.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Henry Taylor and her daughters gave their second "at home." Miss Sophie Milligan entertained her friend, Miss Warren, of Boston, by giving an afternoon tea. The Shakespeare Club met on Tuesday evening at Mrs. Woolsey Johnson's with a full attendance of the members.

On Wednesday Mrs. Hall Harris gave an afternoon card party in honor of Mrs. Lyman Josephs, of Newport, who is spending this winter in Baltimore. Among the guests were the Misses Fowler, Mrs. Wilson Patterson, Mrs. Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Charles J. Bonaparte and Miss McIlvain. Mrs. Charles King Lord gave a luncheon on Wednesday afternoon to a few friends. Among those invited were Mrs. James M. Thompson, Mrs. Taggert Steele, Mrs. Wilson Patterson, Mrs. Hall Harris, Mrs. Albert Ritchie and Mrs. T. B. Harrison. John McHenry gave a hunting dinner at the Maryland Club to the Elkridge and Green Spring Valley clubs on Wednesday evening. Another dinner given on Wednesday evening was that of Mrs. James Thompson. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Key, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Tyson, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. G. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Brown and Mr. and Winslow Williams.

There were on Thursday several valentine teas. One was given by Mrs. Easter and her daughter; there was also a party given in honor of St. Valentine by the little children of Mrs. Lyman Josephs.

Mrs. Manigault Morris entertained Mrs. Eugene Van Rensselaer with a tea on Friday afternoon. Mrs. George Blackistone was "at home" on Friday to her friends. The regular Friday dance came off at Lehman's; it will be the last of this season.

A DINNER PARTY.

ONE OF LONDON'S CHARITIES

From The Pall Mall Budget.

A long alley of box stalls swept by the north wind. Over each half-door the head of an old horse, or a horse prematurely old with hardship, hanging, with watering mouth and eyes bright with expectation. Below each door the troughs containing an appetizing, rare, delightful mess of brown and white bread, sweet carrots, and lumps of white sugar. A fig for your beef and plum pudding! It is the day of the dinner party at the Home of Rest for Horses which ushers in the New Year. No doubt the older inhabitants regale the newcomers with stories of what shall befall them at New Year's and they be pensioners and not merely temporary visitors.

The creatures within the loose-boxes are better off to-day than the creatures without. The boxes are knee-deep in straw, and the atmosphere strikes warmly, stepping in from the cave of the north wind outside. The old horses, some from thirty to forty, are covered with loin-cloths; for, as in ourselves, if we live to be very old, the fire of vitality flickers low, and needs tender cherishing. The sick horses of the cabmen, too, are warmly wrapped up, the rug concealing the drastic blisters, or the sore shoulders, or the other ills of the poor, overworked equine people. But not one of them is so sick or so old as not to be able to pick a New Year's dinner. Even Betsy, aetat forty-one, after her first nervous terror at these strange faces in the door—she has scarcely a patch of lung, and is hard put to it for breath, poor old girl!—is agreeably distracted when her nose is led to the strange delicacies with which a benevolent lady has provided her. For the New Year's dinner is a special benefaction from a lady who makes her own horses stump up to support their distressed comrades; and quite right, too, for one never knows what one may come to.

But they are not all objects of charity at the Acton home, though I am bound to say that there are no social distinctions, and that the cabby's galled jade lies as soft and fares to the last lump of sugar as sweetly as the Colonel's old black charger or the lady's thoroughbred hunter. He is a delightful old chap come from Peckham to see his pony, who has been in the home a year. He is apple-cheeked and in an incessant state of jolly laughter, which is perhaps because after a year's absence he is to see Tommy. Peckham is a good way off, and the home doesn't open on Sundays, so there is some difficulty about two friends meeting. When Tommy's stall is discovered they run into each other's arms, so to speak, pony and man nuzzling each other to the accompaniment of delighted whinnies—for the old man's high, cackling laughter is a sound akin to Tommy's whinnie. The pony is an old thing, covered with a thick coat, and with a fringe over his bright eyes that would be envied down Whitechapel way. Presently Tommy's attention is distracted to his New Year's dinner, which he eats to an accompaniment of facetious nokes from his owner. "Eh!" he cries, beaming on every one, "Tommy wouldn't leave 'ere, not even for 'ome. Tommy likes the alms'ouses, 'e do."

The second oldest horse in the place, Bully, aged thirty-five, belonged to a young lady who preferred the cloister to the world. Bully dreams of the hunting-field side by side with the old charger who looks still to have something of the pride of battle as he prances nervously before the strangers. The horses see their medical men twice a week. In another row are the horses who are sent out to take the places of exhausted horses. The place is fuller and more fruitful of piteous instances when the season has just finished, though no doubt accident cases from the frost will presently be filling these warm hospital wards. At midsummer and afterward patients come in, the merest bags of bones, trembling and falling down from stress of work. What a heaven it must seem to them, the six weeks' holiday over the fields at Acton! Some of them have never seen the fields but in dreams, and but for this tender kindness would never see them till, perhaps, they reach the Elysian Fields. But at last they, who have dragged so many dusty travellers and their unending baggage on the way to the country, are taken to the country themselves, and have a delicious spell of it in the long sunny and shady days and the dewy nights, resting, resting among the clover and by the side of cool waters.

There is a very ancient white pony which stands up on its manger and bows when a lady comes into the box. But his eagerness for his New Year's dinner makes him forget his pretty trick, and not even Mrs. Davies, who seems to have the hearts of the horses, can withdraw his head from the manger and the dainties he is crunching.

Friar's Farm is a bit of the country with the town creeping steadily around it. You pass a row of hideous new houses and by a torn-up roadway, redolent of drains and gas, to reach the gate of the farmyard. But the farmhouse with its delightful old garden might be deep in leafy Warwickshire. And its horses, I am sure, forget while they are there that there is such a nightmare as London in existence.

THE COTTON SUPPLY AT ITS MAXIMUM.

RECEIPTS FOR THE FIRST TIME FALL BELOW CONSUMPTION—MARKETS ADVANCE AGAIN.

The cotton markets of America and Liverpool were stronger yesterday, prices on the New-York Cotton Exchange opening three to four points higher and maintaining the gain to the close. The tide of receipts of this year's crop, which has been running with such unprecedented volume since the picking season began, has reached its full and the ebb has set in. "The Chronicle's" figures show that the world's visible supply of all kinds yesterday was 4,847,784 bales, against 4,935,449 last week. The total of American was 4,524,000, against 4,613,000 on the previous Saturday, a loss of 89,000 bales, and a decidedly favorable feature. The entire world's visible supply is only 370,000 bales greater than last year, in spite of the receipt of over 2,000,000 bales more on this year's crop. With the mills of the world running at a rate never known before, with not an idle loom in sight, which has not been the case in two years, and with receipts running behind the receipts of the 9,000,000-bale year, the big crop season heretofore, there seemed to be good reason for the advance in cotton. The maximum supply for the season has been reached and there will be a gradual reduction until the new crop begins to be marketed.

Middling upland yesterday at Liverpool was 3d., against 4¼d. a year ago, 4 15-16d. in 1893 and 3¾d. in the big crop year.

New-Orleans estimates place the amount of cotton to come in sight for the week ending next Friday at 85,000 to 90,000 bales, against 148,000 in the big crop year. The amount brought in sight during February is estimated at 500,000 bales, against 448,529 in February, 1892. In March, 1892, there came into sight 437,335 bales; the movement for March this year is placed at 75,000 to 100,000 bales less.

Atwood, Violett & Co. have this to say of the situation: "It rather seems to us that what cotton now remains in the South, in first hands or by the interior merchant, will be held rather firmly, believing, as they do, in an official or semi-official announcement as to the reduction of acreage. Considering also that the world's spinners have taken so largely more than for the same period last season, thereby making them much more interested in having the market advance rather than decline, we should rather improve, especially as a lighter movement seems likely to be realized for the next week or two, and perhaps for a longer period, not only as compared with the 9,000,000-crop year, but actually. In other words, we think there are a great many influences that are now favoring the long side, some of which have not been evident during the present season until now."

"FILLED CHEESE" SENT TO ENGLAND.

NEW-YORK PRODUCE DEALERS DESIRE LEGISLATION—THE EXPORT BUSINESS THREATENED.

A good deal of disapprobation has been expressed by the produce dealers in this city over the course taken by some Western cheese manufacturers in sending what is known as "filled cheese" to England. The English authorities have recently discovered that a large proportion of the cheese shipped from America has been an imitation of the genuine cheese, or "filled cheese." Meetings have been held, and the sub-committee of the Home and Foreign Produce Exchange, of London, has issued a circular in which it says:

We are now informed that a fresh endeavor is being made to introduce American supplies of filled cheese, and that the British and Dutch manufacture of the imitation is being pushed. It is impossible fully to estimate the prejudicial effect which such an article exercises on the sale of the genuine product on passing into consumption, and we therefore strongly urge all who are interested in putting down an adulteration which tempts unscrupulous traders to injure a large and honest industry to discourage this traffic whenever they come in